

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016– 6:30 P.M.**

Members	Attendance	April 2015- APRIL 2016	
		Present	Absent
Edna Elijah, Chair	P	8	0
Austin Scott, Vice, Chair	P	5	3
Gregory T. Boardman	P	5	3
Towana Bonaparte	P	7	1
Dr. Ciara L. Bostick	P	6	2
Maureen S. Dinnen	P	5	3
Jennifer Gordon	P	5	0
Deniece Jones	A	6	2
Jennifer L. Kimmey	A	6	2
Dr. Maureen Persi	P	5	2
Betty Shelley	P	4	1
M. Elaine Wilson	P	4	3
Lauren Wood	P	3	0

**Appointed Members to the Board: 13
Needed to constitute a quorum: 7**

Staff

Junia Robinson, staff liaison

Betty Shelley, Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association

I. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance – Chair, Edna Elijah

II. Attendance by Roll Call – Chair, Edna Elijah

Determination of quorum

As of this date, April 21, there are 13 appointed members to the board, which means 7 would constitute a quorum. At this time, there is a quorum.

III. Approve minutes (March 17, 2016)

Motion by Dr. Maureen Persi, seconded by Ms. Betty Shelley, that the said minutes for March 17, 2016 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Guest Introduction/Presentation: Broward County Public Schools (BCPS)

- Mrs. Angela Brown, Principal, Dillard Elementary and Director of Coaching Induction, BCPS
- Ms. Leslie Brown, Chief Portfolio Services Officer, BCPS
- Mr. Chris Akagbosu, Facility Planning and Real Estate Director, BCPS
- Ms. Lisa Wight, Growth Management Planner, BCPS

Chair Elijah introduced Mrs. Angela Brown, Principal at Dillard elementary school who was Principal of the year for 2015 and is now the Director of Coaching Induction for BCPS.

Mrs. Brown greeted the Board and shared as of March 01st she was appointed as BCPS's Director of Coaching Induction. She said the new Principal for Dillard elementary has not officially been announced but she will be appointed on May 16th. Mrs. Brown opened her PowerPoint presentation (see attached) by saying that she has been at Dillard elementary for five years. She said she had a five year plan and her slogan is "giving our children a world full of opportunities".

Mrs. Brown began by saying Dillard has a demographic of "98.8% low social economic, 96% Black, 1%Hispanic, 1%multi-racial and 1%white. She explained that there were many challenges when she arrived at Dillard five years ago. Mrs. Brown shared one of the challenges was "the Staff, the Staff had 4 Principals within 5 year period. She said she made a commitment to them that she would at least give 5 years. The school was under enrolled with only 461 students; it was one of the lowest 100 schools in the State of Florida with 4% parent population, entering kindergartens facing many underlying deficits. For example, Mrs. Brown said "I had kindergartens that had the mental capacity of an age three". She continued by saying "although we have the VPK program, many of the parents do not take advantage of the program". In addition, the school faced "limited resources and a huge discipline problem".

The first thing, Mrs. Brown shared she implemented was a parent survey. She said "Dillard elementary is a neighborhood school, we have 4 students in the whole school that ride the school bus and "those are ESE students". Currently the school is enrolled at over 900 students. Mrs. Brown shared in the survey they found that "parents were dissatisfied with the quality of education and the lack of additional programs". She said she began empowering students and to take responsibility for their own learning. She also said she applied all the learning to "real life application". For example, the children have to apply math to grocery shopping.

Mrs. Brown also implemented a family focused initiative. She said she noticed that there was a huge illiteracy problem in the community with parents. She said she began with her staff and they had clip boards and any forms that needed to be completed; staff would assist parents.

She continued by saying "we know we have a literacy problem and we are sending children home to parents who can't read. So we began to have monthly parent nights and these are different than probably any parent night that you have heard before". Mrs. Brown said they would start the meeting for parents with sight words. The same sight words their children were learning. She explained Staff taught the parents exactly what their children were learning in class. Mrs. Brown said this initiative increased the school's parent participation by 78%. This is in part because "the parents did not feel bad about their illiteracy challenges".

She said they have a girls mentoring program with 160 girls. They call these programs "after school not after streets". Mrs. Brown continued by saying "our girls have their own magazine and they write their own articles". She said the girls stay for 4 hours after school and they bring in women from the community to talk and mentor them. They also have a program for boys called "fly guys". She explained "we know that boys/children who can't read by the third grade, we know that prisons and decisions are being made based on that data. Mrs. Brown says they

focus on third grade boys and “we focus on self-esteem, respect and take them to places like fishing.

Ms. Lorraine Tappen, Planner, City of Fort Lauderdale, Urban Design and planning began the discussion with the board by saying “one of our roles is to oversee the comprehensive plan that’s the City’s land use plans, and that’s how properties are regulated and organize infrastructure like roads, water, sewer, parks and schools. She continued by saying, “one of the components to the land use plan is school concurrency and in the past couple of years BCPS and a number of cities have been reviewing school concurrency and the adjustments that may be necessary as the city/county grows. Ms. Tappen shared that she is part of City Staff’s working group with BCPS and they had a plan that they put out to all the planners in the county. It was recommended that the plan be brought to the EAB for review and discussion to look how it would integrate with the City’s strategic plan and vision plan. Ms. Tappen said “how can we use this comprehensive plan to increase the quality of education in our City”. She explained this presentation tonight is to begin integrating some of these discussions in the plan. Ms. Tappen said she looks forward to hearing input from the board and the input she hears tonight will be shared with the City commission.

Ms. Leslie Brown, Chief Portfolio Services Office BCPS began the discussion regarding school concurrency with a PowerPoint presentation (see attached). She introduced her Staff then continued by saying school concurrency is incredibly clinical and what Ms. Tappen with the City of Fort Lauderdale shared is also extremely clinical. Ms. Brown said “I hope we will be able to share enough information and you will have a comfort level to be able to make a recommendation to your Commission”.

V. Current business

A. City Staff update – Junia Robinson

Ms. Robinson said Mr. Webster sent his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting this evening due to a conflict with another community event. She also reminded the board, if they have any questions/comments for Ms. Brown and her staff or City Staff/planner please send it to her via email and she will generate a list and send to either Ms. Brown or City staff.

Ms. Robinson announced the City Clerk’s training for all board members. She encouraged both new and senior board members to attend the training. Ms. Robinson said the City Attorney/City Clerk’s office is encouraging all board members to take this training.

In addition to the regular topics being discussed, the Clerk’s office said “this board has not discussed possibly appointing a new chair. She continued by saying the Clerk’s office said this board has not had elections in a long while. This would be a good opportunity to elect a new chair or vice-chair should the board chose to have elections. Ms. Robinson said “if this is something the board is interested in doing, we can put it on the agenda for next month”.

VI. Communication to City Commission

VII. New/Future Business

Ms. Dinnen asked for an update from BCPS regarding the cafeteria at Stranahan high school.

VIII. Closing

The next meeting is scheduled for, Thursday, May 19, 2016

City hall, 8th floor conference room